## Proclamation

## Recognizing July as Parks and Recreation Month



**WHEREAS**, parks and recreation programs are an integral part of communities throughout this country, including Monroe, Washington; and

**WHEREAS**, our parks and recreation are vitally important to establishing and maintaining the quality of life in our communities, ensuring the physical health of all residents, and contributing to the economic and environmental well-being of a community and region; and

**WHEREAS**, parks and recreation programs build healthy, active communities that aid in the prevention of chronic disease, provide therapeutic recreation services for those who are mentally or physically disabled, and also improve the mental and emotional health of all residents; and

**WHEREAS**, parks and recreation programs increase a community's economic prosperity through increased property values, expansion of the local tax base, increased tourism, and the attraction and retention of businesses; and

**WHEREAS**, parks and natural recreation areas improve water quality, protect groundwater, prevent flooding, improve the quality of the air we breathe, provide vegetative buffers to development, and produce habitat for wildlife; and

**WHEREAS**, our parks and natural recreation areas ensure the ecological beauty of our community and provide a place for children and adults to connect with nature and recreate outdoors; and

**WHEREAS**, the U.S. House of Representatives has designated July as Parks and Recreation Month; and

**WHEREAS**, the 2021 Parks and Recreation Month theme is "Our Parks and Recreation Story," and the National Recreation and Park Association wants to highlight the stories of how our community are stronger, more vibrant and more resilient because of parks and recreation.

**NOW THEREFORE,** I, Geoffrey Thomas, Mayor of the City of Monroe, Washington, do hereby recognize the month of July 2021 as

## PARKS AND RECREATION MONTH

and encourage residents, businesses, and visitors to seek out City of Monroe parks facilities and participate in recreational events.

Geoffrey Thomas, Mayor